

Message Text

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11

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-05 ERDA-05 AF-06

ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 NRC-05 /120 W

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R 210420Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 78

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, PFOR, NZ, XP

SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE (SPNFZ)

REF: WELLINGTON 2418, DTG 200454Z AUG 75 (NOTAL)

1. AUGUST 20 PM ROWLING GAVE RADIO INTERVIEW ON SPNFZ,
EXCERPTS OF WHICH ARE QUOTED BELOW. (COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT
BEING SENT SEPTTEL.)

2. "WE WOULD LOOK FOR . . . COMPLETE CESSATION

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OF ANY NUCLEAR WEAPONRY TESTING IN THE AREA DESIGNATED

AS A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE. ALSO, TO TRY AND GET AGREEMENT THAT THE ZONE WOULD ALSO BE KEPT CLEAR INsofar AS THE MOVEMENT OF NUCLEAR, NOT POWERED BUT CERTAINLY ARMED, VESSELS ARE CONCERNED."

3. "WHAT WE WANT TO DO IS TO PREVENT THE KIND OF NUCLEAR CONFRONTATION OCCURRING IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC THAT HAS ALREADY OCCURRED IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. WE HAVE, FOR EXAMPLE, NO REASON TO BELIEVE, ALTHOUGH I MUST CONFESS THAT WE HAVE NO MEANS OF DISPROVING, BUT NO PARTICULAR REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS NUCLEAR DEPLOYMENT IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC AT THE PRESENT TIME. WELL, WE WANT TO KEEP IT THAT WAY."

4. "OBVIOUSLY THE FRENCH ARE ONE OF THE INVOLVED NATIONS SINCE THEY HAVE BEEN TESTING IN THE REGION. BUT IT IS MORE THAN JUST THE QUESTION OF A NATION TESTING. IT IS THE WHOLE MATTER OF THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE."

5. "I WOULD BE SURPRISED IF WE DID NOT IN FACT GET A STRONG MAJORITY (VOTE IN UN). THE SECRETARY GENERAL HIMSELF IS ONE WHO IS ON RECORD AS ONE ESPOUSING THE IDEA OF APPROACHING THIS WHOLE QUESTION OF NUCLEAR CONTAINMENT ON A REGIONAL BASIS. IT SEEMS THAT LOOKING AT IT FROM A GLOBAL POINT OF VIEW HAS NOT SO FAR PROVED SUCCESSFUL, SO IF WE CAN MOVE IN DEALING WITH REGIONS FIRST THEN LINKING THE REGIONS, IT MAY BE ONE WAY OF MUCH MORE EFFECTIVELY CONTAINING THE PROBLEM THAN WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO UP TO DATE."

6. "THE COUNTRIES WITH WHOM WE HAVE SPOKEN SO FAR INCLUDE OBVIOUSLY THE UNITED STATES OF COURSE BECAUSE OF OUR PARTICULAR RELATIONSHIP. . . I THINK THAT IT IS UNLIKELY THAT TH UNITED STATES WILL ACTUALLY VOTE FOR THE RESOLUTION. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE IN THE FINAL ANAYLSIS WHAT HAPPENS."

7. "I HAVE ADVISED THE SVIET UNION OF OUR INTENTIONS. IN FACT I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF ADVISING THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR BEFORE HE RETURNED ON HOME LEAVE . . . OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OUR INTENTIONS AND ASKED HIM TO . . . CONVEY THESE TO THE SOVIET UNION SEEKING SUPPORT. NOW I HAVE NO INDICATION OF WHAT THEIR ATTITUDE WILL BE AT THIS STAGE."

8. ". . . OUR POSTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ENLIST SUPPORT AS WELL, ONE OF THOSE POSTS IS IN CHINA. . . WE HAVE QUITE CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH FRANCE FROM THE BEGINNING OF OUR PROPOSALS BECAUSE OF ITS OWN

CLOSE INVOLVEMENT IN THE PACIFIC. . . I CAN'T IMAGINE FOR A MINUTE THAT FRANCE WILL BE SUPPORTING THE RESOLUTION BECAUSE OF THEIR OWN PARTICULAR POSITION. BUT IT HAS NOT LED TO A DIVISION OF OPINION BETWEEN FRANCE AND NEW ZEALAND ON OTHER ISSUES AT ALL."

9. "I THINK THAT IT IS UNLIKELY THAT AUSTRALIA WILL COME TO THE POSITION OF CO-SPONSORING THE RESOLUTION. I DO THINK THAT IT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY VOTE FOR THE RESOLUTION. IT WOULD BE FAIR TO SAY THAT THEY HAVE BEEN PREOCCUPIED WITH THE INDIAN OCEAN AND THE PROBLEMS IN THAT AREA OVER THE PAST YEAR THAN THE PROBLEMS IN THE PACIFIC."

10. AUGUST 21 PRESS REPORTS ROWLING AS SAYING THAT ACTIONS SUCH AS FAILURE OF UN COMMITTEE OF NUCLEAR EXPERTS IN GENEVA TO MAKE UNIVERSAL RECOMMENDATION ON ESTABLISHMENT NUCLEAR FREE ZONES ARE ADDITIONAL REASONS WHY NZ HAD TO TAKE INITIATIVE.

11. PRESS ALSO REPORTS ROWLING AS SAYING THAT WHILE MANY OF NZ'S ALLIES, SUCH AS US AND FRANCE, ARE NOT HAPPY WITH SPNFZ PROPOSAL, NONE HAD PRESSURED NZ TO DESIST.

12. AMBASSADOR HAS APPOINTMENT WITH FONSECY CORNER AUGUST 22 TO DISCUSS GNZ POLICY RE SPNFZ. REPORT THEREON AND RECOMMENDATIONS WILL FOLLOW. SELDEN

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